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NEWS RELEASE

Sept. 27, 2000

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DISTINGUISHED UM ALUMNI RECEIVE AWARDS AT HOMECOMING

MISSOULA--

Six University of Montana graduates will receive the UM Alumni Association's highest honor during this year's Homecoming celebration Friday and Saturday, Oct. 6-7.

Distinguished Alumni Awards will go to the late W. Bruce Cook, Bonnie Pitsch Dalton, James P. Lucas, Patty Holmes Myers, Dr. Raymond J. Rademacher and Livingston C. Soans. The awards will be presented at the traditional Singing on the Steps of Main Hall ceremony starting at 7 p.m. Friday. Cook's widow, Mary Lou Cook, will accept her husband's award.

Cook was a Montana native, born in Walkerville. He graduated from UM in 1957 with a bachelor's degree in history and political science. He then attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, earning bachelor's and master's degrees during 1957-59 and 1961-62. After college he had a distinguished 35-year career with Exxon Corp. that took him to executive posts in London and Athens. He retired in 1997 as corporate vice president. Cook served on the UM Foundation board of trustees from 1991 until his August 1999 death in a horseback-riding accident near his home in Big Sky. At that time he was vice chair of the board and was slated to become chair in fall 2000. In 1996 he and Mary Lou helped establish the Rhodes Scholar Program Endowment at UM.

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Dalton has been a leader in life sciences programs for 36 years at NASA's Ames Research Center. Currently acting chief of the Life Sciences Division, she manages a \$25 million annual budget for development and implementation of biological payloads for Spacehab, ferried into space on shuttle flights, and payloads going via shuttle into the International Space Station. In 1992 she won the NASA Outstanding Leadership Award, and in April of this year she was selected for the NASA-Senior Executive Service Program. Dalton is widely published in leading scientific journals and recognized as an authority on ground facilities, habitats and equipment required to support nonhuman biological specimens. A Montana native and a graduate of Hardin High School, she now lives in Sunnyvale, Calif. She holds bachelor's and master's of science degrees in microbiology and public health from UM.

Lucas earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and a doctorate in law from UM and is currently president and senior attorney for the Lucas & Monaghan law firm in Miles City. Since leaving UM in 1951, he has devoted much of his time to service, including membership on the boards of Montana Power Co., Mountain States Legal Foundation and the National Fund for Improvement of Post-Secondary Education. He served 23 years on the UM Foundation board of trustees, part of that time as president, and he's a former Montana legislator and House speaker. Previous awards for his contributions and leadership include the Montana Jaycee Outstanding Service Award, Custer County Educational Association Award and the UM Community Service Award.

Myers, a 1970 UM graduate in education, has spent the past 30 years teaching first- and second-graders in Great Falls, distinguishing herself as a pioneer in classroom computer use. Along the way, she earned two master's degrees in education -- one in computers, one in

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curriculum and instruction -- and since 1996 has taught computer night classes at Montana State-Northern in addition to her day job at Lewis and Clark Elementary. In 1998 she was named Montana Educator of the Year and received a Milken Foundation National Educator Award, which included a \$25,000 prize. Recognized statewide as an advocate for children and education, Myers recently was appointed by Gov. Marc Racicot to sit on the State Board of Public Education for the years 2000-2007.

Rademacher has had a distinguished career in medicine since his 1952 graduation from UM in premed. He received a doctor's degree in medicine from George Washington University School of Medicine and practiced pediatrics for 34 years in Denver, winning the Pediatrician of the Year Award in 1996 from the Colorado Rocky Mountain Chapter of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates and Practitioners. He also has taught at the University of Colorado School of Medicine since 1962 and earned the Outstanding Clinical Teacher Award from the school and from Denver Children's Hospital. This year he was elected a Career Teaching Scholar in UC's pediatrics department for his service as a volunteer member of the teaching faculty. Since 1992 Rademacher has volunteered care and support at the QuaLife Wellness Community for men suffering terminal cancer.

Soans, a native of India, was a Fulbright Scholar at UM, where he earned a doctorate in botany and forestry in 1966. After graduation he returned to India to run his family's pineapple farm. During the past 34 years he has introduced new technologies and crops that have made farming economically viable in his district and helped staunch the flow of young potential farmers to the cities. Soans also developed a food-processing plant, creating a distribution system for surplus food and more employment for the village. He consults on water resources

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management and environmental projects, works in the management of several educational and health-care institutions, and volunteers throughout the district in horticulture work.

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